Stone, Robert J.

To: Powers, David M.
Cc: Lester, Frank G.; Matthew Tilley; Nelson, Byron (WKA); Stone, Robert J.
Subject: New England-CT.; MA.; R.I.; N.H.; VT.; & ME.-weeks of 7/31 & 8/7

NH. Senate Republicans met on Tuesday, 8/4 to discuss education funding of $23M from state surplus which they proposed to use without any additional excise tax; discussion continued on a constitutional amendment but the necessary quorum is still short of the necessary number to make it happen. On Thurs., 8/4 during a formal session, the Democrats are expected to propose a $100M package that will include additional excise on tobacco; our lobby team expects the afternoon session to involve a great deal of debate and may last into the evening. In any case, the matter is expected to be presented before the House in September and will be referred to a joint conference committee for resolution.

MA. local...

Holliston-BOH agreed to allow MA. Restaurant Association present technology demo during their 9/8 meeting on Monday, 8/3

Cambridge-Local partisans met on 8/4 before the BOH public hearing on "draft" comprehensive regulations proposed by the board to be held on 8/6 @ 5:30 pm. We have notified all coalition partners and have requested approval from FL to notify retailers and concerned citizens. The BOH has agreed to a meeting with representatives from various associations to be held on 9/9; the City Council will be the next step in the process.

Barnstable(Hyannis)-A tentative date for further discussion on restaurant/public places regulations has been set for 8/11

FET-Last week WK&A completed a mailing to select wholesalers/retailers in the six NE states requesting that they write to their respective Congressional House members opposing any additional excise taxes or regulation of their businesses. Copies were forwarded to the three regional sales offices who assisted with the program.

Best Regards,
Bob

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